AgEcon SEARCH
RESEARCH IN AGRICULTURAL & APPLIED ECONOMICS

The World's Largest Open Access Agricultural & Applied Economics Digital Library

This document is discoverable and free to researchers across the globe due to the work of AgEcon Search.

Help ensure our sustainability.

Give to AgEcon Search

AgEcon Search
http://ageconsearch.umn.edu
aesearch@umn.edu

*Papers downloaded from **AgEcon Search** may be used for non-commercial purposes and personal study only. No other use, including posting to another Internet site, is permitted without permission from the copyright owner (not AgEcon Search), or as allowed under the provisions of Fair Use, U.S. Copyright Act, Title 17 U.S.C.*

PROCEEDINGS

of the

SEVENTH WEST INDIAN

AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS CONFERENCE

held at

Grand Anse, Grenada

April 9th - 15th, 1972

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS AND FARM MANAGEMENT

FOREWORD

The Seventh West Indies Agricultural Economics Conference was only the second conference to be held in a country of a Region which does not have a University Campus. Despite a relative lack of experience in holding regional seminars and conferences the local Conference Committee, in association with staff of the Department of Agricultural Economics, University of the West Indies, was responsible for a well organised Conference. The Grenadian Community supported the Conference generously, and lived up to its high reputation for hospitality. The highlight of the hospitality was undoubtedly the night when all the visiting participants were entertained in Grenadian homes.

The Conference attempted to provide a bridge from international experience of Land Reform - one of the main topics - through Caribbean experience (by case studies of an *old* Land Reform, Mexico's, to a *new* one, Cuba's), to the examination of the reform required in the Commonwealth Caribbean. In addition to the Workshop Groups, which discussed the topic, a Public Forum on the subject of Land Reform in Grenada, was held one night in a school in St. Georges, the capital, and attended by over three hundred people. It is notable that after the Conference, a study group was set up in Grenada to make an extended study of the relevance of other countries' experience for Grenada.

The other topic - The Role of the Caribbean Development Bank in Financing Agricultural Development - was the subject of a paper by the Bank's President, Sir Arthur Lewis. The Paper and the discussion which followed were useful in making the operations of the Bank more familiar to the participants, and in allowing for a fuller examination of the policies of the Bank and the constraints under which they apply, than had occurred in official meetings.

The organisation of the Working Sessions, and the treatment of the various papers presented and submitted, are discussed in the Editor's Comment.

Acknowledgements

Thanks are extended to:- Her Excellency, the Governor, Dame Hilda Bynoe, for the deep interest shown in the Conference; all the persons in Grenada who assisted the Conference through membership and support of the Local Organising Committee (special mention must be made of Mr. Dennis Noel), the Secretariat, and the University's Extra Mural Tutor (Gertrude Hamilton) for making arrangements for the Public Forum; and, the members of the Department of Agricultural Economics, especially Dr. Lloyd Rankine, the Organising Secretary, and Mr. John Mayers from the Cave Hill Campus, U.W.I., who were heavily involved in work associated with the Conference.

D.T. Edwards
Head, Dept. of Agricultural
Economics & Farm Management

EDITOR'S COMMENT

The Seventh West Indies Agricultural Economics Conference again went to one of the less developed countries of the Region, and attracted over seventy overseas participants to Grenada.

In a period of increasing development and social consciousness in the Region, the topics selected for discussion at this Conference were thought quite apt. If The Role of Agriculture in the Development Process is to be emphasised in development plans and theory, the analytical issues related to Land Reform and Financing must be tackled and understood. The Conference represented a first attempt by agricultural economists, technologists and theoreticians in the Region to grapple with these problems.

One notable feature of the Conference was the concentrated attention paid to deriving practical solutions for the problems of Land Reform and Agricultural Financing. Several of the Discussion Sessions quickly moved from the theoretical to the practical. The active participation of Grenadian Government Agricultural Officers and Grenadian Farmers helped in the process of shifting emphasis from theory to practice.

The Seventh Conference saw a new approach to the organisation of the working sessions. In place of the normal reading of a large number of papers by individuals, at great sacrifice to discussion time, only a few papers were actually read at Plenary Sessions with adequate time available for discussion. Other papers prepared for the Conference were used as background papers and provided pivotal points for discussion in the Workshops.

In presenting these papers, therefore, Plenary and Workshop papers dealing with each of the two themes of the Conference are grouped together. All the Plenary papers - by Lewis, Jacoby, Santana, Beckford, Porta and the Banfield paper on Grenada's Agricultural Sector are printed.

The papers presented in this collection represent all but two of the papers prepared for the Conference, along with the reports of the five Workshop Sessions into which the Conference was divided. Included in these Proceedings is a paper by an Agricultural Officer presenting a plan for land use and settlement on small farms.

In preparing the Proceedings the Editor has had excellent support and cooperation from Mrs. C. Draper and from Mrs. H. Mohammed of the Secretarial Staff of the Department of Agricultural Economics and Farm Management. I wish to record my appreciation to these two ladies. I would like to express my appreciation of the several other persons who helped to make the Conference a success and facilitated the editing of the Proceedings. Among these I include the Secretarial Staff serving the Conference itself, under the leadership of Mrs. Fletcher; the Chairmen and Secretaries of the Workshop Groups and the Rapporteurs.

Finally, I wish to acknowledge the contribution of Mr. Julien Johnson of the Department of Agricultural Economics and Farm Management who duplicated and assisted in the collating of the papers for the Proceedings.

Osbourne Nurse
Dept. of Agricultural Economics
and Farm Management
U.W.I., St. Augustine.
February 1973.

CONTENTS

		Page No.
Financing Agricultural Development		1
The Caribbean Development Bank	*Sir. A. Lewis*	3
Financing Agrarian Reform in the Commonwealth Caribbean	*F. Alleyne*	8
Issues in Land Reform		15
Man and Land: The Fundamental Issue in Development (Summary of the Argument)	*E.H. Jacoby*	17
Land Reform for the Betterment of Caribbean Peoples	*G.L.F. Beckford*	25
Land Use and Agricultural Development in the Commonwealth Caribbean	*G.E. Buckmire*	40
The Agrarian Reform Program in Mexico: Brief Analysis	*J.Balesteros Porta*	48
Cuba's Agrarian Revolution and Economic Development	*J. Acosta Santana*	56
Land Reform in a Sparsely Populated Country with an Indigeneous Population: The Case of Guyana	*C. Bourne*	73
Farm Fragmentation in the Commonwealth Caribbean: Some Preliminary Observations and Analysis	*T.L. Hills, S. Iton & J. Lundgren*	88
Land Tenure as a Barrier to Agricultural Innovation: The Case of St. Lucia	*J.D. Momsen*	103
A Review of Land Settlement in Jamaica	*I.E. Johnson, M. Strachan & J. Johnson*	110
The Role of Agriculture in the Economy of Grenada	*R. Banfield*	133
A Case of Land Reform in Grenada	*R. Mark*	155
Workshop Reports		159
I. Rationalising the Caribbean Development Bank and Local Sources of Finance		161
II. The Appropriate Types of Land Reform for the Caribbean		164
III. Strategies for Balancing Social & Private Costs in a Programme of Land Reform		166
IV. Strategies for Financing Land Reform		170
V. Land Reform, Land Use and Economic Development		174